#7 DAC

Petition For Revival Of An Application For Patent Abandoned Unintentionally Under 37 CFR 1.137(b), 37 CFR 1.155(c) or 37 CFR 1.316(c)	Docket No.

In Re Application Of: **Alan Perkins**

Serial No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Group Art Unit
09/334/327	June 16, 1999	Pardo, T.	~~2771~~ 2175

Invention:

A PROCESS FOR IMPROVING SEARCH ENGINE EFFICIENCY USING USER FEEDBACK

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Attention: Office of Petitions
Box DAC
Washington, D.C. 20231

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to file a timely and proper response to the Office Action mailed on **May 22, 2001**, which set a **three (3) months** period for response. The abandonment date of this application is ., the day after the expiration date of the period set for response plus any extensions of time obtained therefore). **Applicant hereby petitions for revival of this application.**

1. ☒ A proposed response to the above-identified Office Action:
   - ☒ is enclosed.
   - ☐ was filed on _____

   The proposed response is in the form of: **Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. Sec. 1.111**

2. ☒ A small entity declaration:
   - ☐ is enclosed.
   - ☒ was filed on **June 16, 1999**

3. ☒ The abandoned application was a:
   - ☐ design application.
   - ☒ utility application.

12/21/2001 GTEFFERA 00000144 09334327
01 FC:241 640.00 OP

Repln. Ref: 12/21/2001 GTEFFERA 0022285000
DAA: 60515 Name/Number:09334327
FC: 704 $20.00 CR

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Calculation and Payment of Fees

Enclosed are the following fees:

4. ☒	Petition fee under 37 CFR 1.17(m) in the amount of:	$660.00
5. ☐	Fee for amendment in the amount of:	
6. ☒	Fee for extension of time to respond to Office Action in the amount of:	$460.00
7. ☐	Issue fee in the amount of:	
8. ☐	Continuing application filing fee in the amount of:	
9. ☐		
10. ☐		
	Total fees enclosed:	$1,120.00

The fee of $1,120 is to be paid as follows:

☒ A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-0515

A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Petition For Revival Of An Application For Patent Abandoned Unintentionally Under 37 CFR 1.137(b), 37 CFR 1.155(c) or 37 CFR 1.316(c)	Docket No.

In Re Application Of: **Alan Perkins**

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Invention:

A PROCESS FOR IMPROVING SEARCH ENGINE EFFICIENCY USING USER FEEDBACK

Statement

(Must Be Verified If Made By A Person Not Registered To Practice Before Patent And Trademark Office)

☒ The delay in prosecuting this application which resulted in abandonment was unintentional.

☐ The delay in payment of the issue fee was unintentional. (Design patent application)

☐ The delay in payment of the issue fee was unintentional. (Utility patent application)

☒ I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

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Dated: **December 11, 2001**

Stephen E. Feldman - Registration No. 22,473
STEPHEN E. FELDMAN, P.C.
Attorneys for Applicant
12 East 41st Street
New York, New York 10017
(212)532-8585

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on **12/11/01** with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the ~~Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.~~ 20231.

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Ida C. Serrano

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

cc:

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST FOR PATENT FEE REFUND

1 Date of Request: 12/02 | 2 Serial/Patent # 09/334,327

	3 Please refund the following fee(s):	4 PAPER NUMBER	5 DATE FILED	6 AMOUNT
	Filing			$
	Amendment			$
X	Extension of Time	8	12/14/01	$ 460.00
	Notice of Appeal/Appeal			$
	Petition			$
	Issue			$
	Cert of Correction/Terminal Disc.			$
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7 TOTAL AMOUNT OF REFUND: $ 460.00

8 TO BE REFUNDED BY:

	Treasury Check
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9 0 6 -- 0 5 1 5

10 REASON:

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11 REFUND REQUESTED BY:

TYPED/PRINTED NAME: WAN LAYMAN TITLE: paralegal

SIGNATURE: Wan Layman PHONE:

OFFICE:

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APPROVED: Alicia Kelley DATE: 1-4-02

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Crystal Park One, Room 802B

FORM PTO 1577
(01/90)

#88

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: A. Perkins

Application: 09/334,327

Filed: June 16, 1999 Art Unit: 2771

For: A PROCESS FOR IMPROVING SEARCH ENGINE EFFICIENCY USING USER FEEDBACK Examiner: Pardo, T.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated May 22, 2001, please enter the following amendments in the above captioned application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the Claims as follows, which constitutes a marked up copy of the Claims:

1. (Amended) A method for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an Internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising the steps of:

implementing a particular user query;

displaying results of user query to a user;

permitting a user to review said results of said user query;

terminating display of said results to the user;

upon said termination of said display of results, subsequently providing to the user a questionnaire with at least one script using at least one form requesting active user feedback input from the user, and then,

calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query;

rating, by multiple users, said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

collecting said ratings from said multiple users; and

incorporating said collected ratings into calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate.

2. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

creating multiple profiles per user and incorporating said multiple profiles per user into said calculation of relevancy of the resource.

3. (Amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of calculating the relevancy of a resource further comprises the steps of

providing an internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy, said calculating based on traditional methods;

formulating through the use of said search engine calculated relevancy, a query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query;

the step of rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

the step of collecting said ratings further comprises

gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources; and

the step of incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations.

4. (Amended) [The method of Claim 3] A method for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an Internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising the steps of:

implementing a particular user query;

calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query;

rating, by multiple users, said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

collecting said ratings from said multiple users; and

incorporating said collected ratings into calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate,

wherein the step of calculating the relevancy of a resource further comprises the steps of

providing an Internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy, said calculating based on traditional methods;

formulating through the use of said search engine calculated relevancy, a query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query;

the step of rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

the step of collecting said ratings further comprises

gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources; and

the step of incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations;

[further comprising the step of:]

providing, to a user, a means for creating multiple profiles consisting of various demographic and psychographic data, the user is any one of the multiple users;

creating, by the user, said multiple profiles;

providing, to the user, a means of selecting one profile from said multiple profiles; and,

selecting, by a user, said one profile prior to submitting the particular query.

5. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 4, said one profile comprises data for personal related searches.

6. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 4, said one profile comprises data for business related searches.

7. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 4, further comprising the step of:

combining said set of evaluations from multiple users with said selected profiles of the multiple users so that the relevancy rating system is further refined.

8. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 4, further comprising the step of modifying said multiple profiles for the purpose of updating information in said profiles.

9. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 8, said modifying step further comprises deleting said multiple profiles for the purpose of removing a user.

10. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 4, further comprising the step of modifying said one profile for the purpose of updating information in said profile.

11. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 10, said modifying step further comprises deleting said one profile for the purpose of removing one of a user's multiple profiles.

12. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 8, further comprising the step of recalculating, by said search engine, the relevancy of the resource in response to said modifying said multiple profiles.

13. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 9, further comprising the step of calculating, by said search engine, a new relevancy of the resource in response to said deleting said multiple profiles.

14. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 10, further comprising the step of recalculating, by said search engine, the relevancy of the resource in response to said modifying said one profile.

15. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 9, further comprising the step of calculating, by said search engine, a new relevancy of the resource in response to said deleting said one profile.

16. (Amended) The method of Claim 3, further comprising the step of implementing anti-spamming measures to prevent rogue [said] feedback from adversely affecting said search engine relevancy rating system.

17. (Unchanged) The method of Claim 3, said step of gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources further comprises

providing a web browser modified to accept user evaluations; and

transmitting gathered evaluations to said search engine.

18. (Amended) [The method of Claim 3] A method for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an Internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising the steps of:

implementing a particular user query;

calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query;

rating, by multiple users, said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

collecting said ratings from said multiple users; and

incorporating said collected ratings into calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate,

wherein the step of calculating the relevancy of a resource further comprises the steps of

providing an Internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy, said calculating based on traditional methods;

formulating through the use of said search engine calculated relevancy, a query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query;

the step of rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

the step of collecting said ratings further comprises

gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources; and

the step of incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations,

said step of gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources further comprises

providing a first web form on the search engine home page;

providing a second web form on the search engine results page; and

transmitting to said search engine, via said first web form and via said second web form, said gathered evaluations.

19. (Amended) An apparatus for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an Internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising:

a means for obtaining a particular query, the particular query obtained from a user;

video-display displaying results of user query to a user and time-measuring means permitting a user to review said results of said user query;

cessation means terminating display of said results to the user;

upon said termination of said display of results said time-measuring means subsequently providing to the user a questionnaire with at least one script using at least one form requesting active user feedback from the user.

a means for calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query, said calculating is based on traditional calculation methods;

a means for rating said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

a means for collecting said ratings from the multiple users; and

a means for incorporating said collected ratings into the calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate.

20.(Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 19, further comprising:

a means for creating multiple profiles per user and a means for incorporating said multiple profiles per user into said calculation of relevance of the resource.

21. (Amended) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein

said means for calculating the relevancy of a resources further comprises

a means for providing an Internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy;

a means for formulating query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query, said search engine calculated relevancy is used for formulating said query result list;

said means for rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

a means for supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

a means for prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query; said means for collecting said ratings further comprises

a means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources; and said means for incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

a means for modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations.

22.(Amended) [The apparatus of Claim 21] An apparatus for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising:

a means for obtaining a particular query, the particular query obtained from a user;

a means for calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query, said calculating is based on traditional calculation methods;

a means for rating said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

a means for collecting said ratings from the multiple users;

a means for incorporating said collected ratings into the calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate;

said means for calculating the relevancy of a resources further comprises

a means for providing an internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy;

a means for formulating query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query, said search engine calculated relevancy is used for formulating said query result list;

said means for rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

a means for supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

a means for prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

said means for collecting said ratings further comprises

a means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources;

said means for incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

a means for modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations;

said apparatus further comprising:

a means for creating multiple profiles consisting of various demographic and psychographic data, the user being one of the multiple users; and,

a means for selecting said one profile prior to submitting the particular query.

23.(Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 22, said one profile comprises data for personal related searches.

24. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 22, said one profile comprises data for business related searches.

25. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising:

a means for combining said set of evaluations from multiple users with said selected profiles of the multiple

users so that the relevancy rating system is further refined.

26. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising a means for modifying said multiple profiles for the purpose of updating information in said profiles.

27. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 26, said means for modifying further comprises a means for deleting said multiple profiles for the purpose of removing a user.

28. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising a means for modifying said one profile for the purpose of updating information in said profile.

29. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 28, said means for modifying further comprises a means for deleting said one profile for the purpose of removing one of a user's multiple profiles.

30. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 26, further comprising a means for recalculating, by said search engine, the relevancy of the resource in response to said modifying said multiple profiles.

31. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 27, further comprising a means for calculating a new relevancy of the resource in response to said deleting said multiple profiles.

32. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 28, further comprising a means for recalculating the relevancy of the resource in response to said modifying said one profile.

33. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 27, further comprising a means for calculating a new relevancy of the resource in response to said deleting said one profile.

34. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising a means for implementing anti-spamming measures to prevent rogue [said] feedback from adversely affecting said search engine relevancy rating system.

35. (Unchanged) The apparatus of Claim 21, said means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources further comprises

a means for providing a web browser modified to accept user evaluations; and

a means for transmitting gathered evaluations to said search engine.

36. (Amended) [The apparatus of Claim 21] An apparatus for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising:

a means for obtaining a particular query, the particular query obtained from a user;

a means for calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query, said calculating is based on traditional calculation methods;

a means for rating said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

a means for collecting said ratings from the multiple users;

a means for incorporating said collected ratings into the calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate;

said means for calculating the relevancy of a resources further comprises

a means for providing an internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy;

a means for formulating query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query, said search engine calculated relevancy is used for formulating said query result list;

said means for rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

a means for supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

a means for prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

said means for collecting said ratings further comprises

a means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources;

said means for incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

a means for modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations;

said means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources further comprises

a means for providing a first web form on the search engine home page;

a means for providing a second web form on the search engine results page; and

a means for transmitting to said search engine said gathered evaluations.

37. (Allowed) A method for improving search engine efficiency using user feedback, comprising the steps of:

creating and modifying a user profile record;

recording user searches;

recording user ratings of search results;

identifying relevant elements of said user profile record with respect to said user searches;

calculating relevancy coefficients based on said recorded user ratings and said user profile record;

grouping said search results; and,

recalculating of said relevancy coefficients based on said grouping of said results.

38. (Allowed) An apparatus for improving search engine efficiency using user feedback, comprising:

a means for creating and modifying a user profile record;

a means for recording user searches;

a means for recording user ratings of search results;

a means for identifying relevant elements of said user profile record with respect to said user searches;

a means for calculating relevancy coefficients based on said recorded user ratings and said user profile record;

a means for grouping said search results; and,

a means for recalculating of said relevancy coefficients based on said grouping of said results.

A clean copy of the Claims is as follows:

1. A method for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an Internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising the steps of:

implementing a particular user query;

displaying results of user query to a user;

permitting a user to review said results of said user query;

terminating display of said results to the user;

upon said termination of said display of results, subsequently providing to the user a questionnaire with at least one script using at least one form requesting active user feedback input from the user, and then,

calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query;

rating, by multiple users, said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

collecting said ratings from said multiple users; and

incorporating said collected ratings into calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate.

2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

creating multiple profiles per user and incorporating said multiple profiles per user into said calculation of relevancy of the resource.

3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of calculating the relevancy of a resource further comprises the steps of

providing an internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy, said calculating based on traditional methods;

formulating through the use of said search engine calculated relevancy, a query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query;

the step of rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

the step of collecting said ratings further comprises

gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources; and

the step of incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations.

SUB E2 4. A method for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an Internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising the steps of:

implementing a particular user query;

calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query;

rating, by multiple users, said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

collecting said ratings from said multiple users; and

incorporating said collected ratings into calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate,

wherein the step of calculating the relevancy of a resource further comprises the steps of

providing an Internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy, said calculating based on traditional methods;

formulating through the use of said search engine calculated relevancy, a query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query;

the step of rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

the step of collecting said ratings further comprises

gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources; and

the step of incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations;

providing, to a user, a means for creating multiple profiles consisting of various demographic and psychographic data, the user is any one of the multiple users;

creating, by the user, said multiple profiles;

providing, to the user, a means of selecting one profile from said multiple profiles; and,

selecting, by a user, said one profile prior to submitting the particular query.

5. The method of Claim 4, said one profile comprises data for personal related searches.

6. The method of Claim 4, said one profile comprises data for business related searches.

7. The method of Claim 4, further comprising the step of:

combining said set of evaluations from multiple users with said selected profiles of the multiple users so that the relevancy rating system is further refined.

8. The method of Claim 4, further comprising the step of modifying said multiple profiles for the purpose of updating information in said profiles.

9. The method of Claim 8, said modifying step further comprises deleting said multiple profiles for the purpose of removing a user.

10. The method of Claim 4, further comprising the step of modifying said one profile for the purpose of updating information in said profile.

11. The method of Claim 10, said modifying step further comprises deleting said one profile for the purpose of removing one of a user's multiple profiles.

12. The method of Claim 8, further comprising the step of recalculating, by said search engine, the relevancy of the resource in response to said modifying said multiple profiles.

13. The method of Claim 9, further comprising the step of calculating, by said search engine, a new relevancy of the resource in response to said deleting said multiple profiles.

14. The method of Claim 10, further comprising the step of recalculating, by said search engine, the relevancy of the resource in response to said modifying said one profile.

15. The method of Claim 9, further comprising the step of calculating, by said search engine, a new relevancy of the resource in response to said deleting said one profile.

16. The method of Claim 3, further comprising the step of implementing anti-spamming measures to prevent rogue

feedback from adversely affecting said search engine relevancy rating system.

17. The method of Claim 3, said step of gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources further comprises

providing a web browser modified to accept user evaluations; and

transmitting gathered evaluations to said search engine.

SUB E37

18. A method for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising the steps of:

implementing a particular user query;

calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query;

rating, by multiple users, said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

collecting said ratings from said multiple users; and

incorporating said collected ratings into calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate.

37

wherein the step of calculating the relevancy of a resource further comprises the steps of

providing an Internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy, said calculating based on traditional methods;

formulating through the use of said search engine calculated relevancy, a query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query;

the step of rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

the step of collecting said ratings further comprises

gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources; and

the step of incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations,

said step of gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources further comprises

providing a first web form on the search engine home page;

providing a second web form on the search engine results page; and

transmitting to said search engine, via said first web form and via said second web form, said gathered evaluations.

19. An apparatus for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an Internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising:

a means for obtaining a particular query, the particular query obtained from a user;

video-display displaying results of user query to a user and time-measuring means permitting a user to review said results of said user query;

cessation means terminating display of said results to the user;

upon said termination of said display of results said time-measuring means subsequently providing to the user a questionnaire with at least one script using at least one form requesting active user feedback from the user,

a means for calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query, said calculating is based on traditional calculation methods;

a means for rating said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

a means for collecting said ratings from the multiple users; and

a means for incorporating said collected ratings into the calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate.

20. The apparatus of Claim 19, further comprising:

a means for creating multiple profiles per user and a means for incorporating said multiple profiles per user into said calculation of relevance of the resource.

21. The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein

said means for calculating the relevancy of a resources further comprises

a means for providing an Internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy;

a means for formulating query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query, said search engine calculated relevancy is used for formulating said query result list;

said means for rating the relevancy of a resource

further comprises

a means for supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

a means for prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query; said means for collecting said ratings further comprises

a means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources; and said means for incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

a means for modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations.

22. An apparatus for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising:

a means for obtaining a particular query, the particular query obtained from a user;

a means for calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query, said calculating is based on traditional calculation methods;

a means for rating said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

a means for collecting said ratings from the multiple users;

a means for incorporating said collected ratings into the calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate;

said means for calculating the relevancy of a resources further comprises

a means for providing an internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy;

a means for formulating query result list of proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query, said search engine calculated relevancy is used for formulating said query result list;

said means for rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

a means for supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

a means for prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

said means for collecting said ratings further

comprises

a means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources;

said means for incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

a means for modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations;

said apparatus further comprising:

a means for creating multiple profiles consisting of various demographic and psychographic data, the user being one of the multiple users; and,

a means for selecting said one profile prior to submitting the particular query.

23. The apparatus of Claim 22, said one profile comprises data for personal related searches.

24. The apparatus of Claim 22, said one profile comprises data for business related searches.

25. The apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising:

a means for combining said set of evaluations from multiple users with said selected profiles of the multiple

users so that the relevancy rating system is further refined.

26. The apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising a means for modifying said multiple profiles for the purpose of updating information in said profiles.

27. The apparatus of Claim 26, said means for modifying further comprises a means for deleting said multiple profiles for the purpose of removing a user.

28. The apparatus of Claim 22, further comprising a means for modifying said one profile for the purpose of updating information in said profile.

29. The apparatus of Claim 28, said means for modifying further comprises a means for deleting said one profile for the purpose of removing one of a user's multiple profiles.

30. The apparatus of Claim 26, further comprising a means for recalculating, by said search engine, the relevancy of the resource in response to said modifying said multiple profiles.

31. The apparatus of Claim 27, further comprising a means for calculating a new relevancy of the resource in response to said deleting said multiple profiles.

32. The apparatus of Claim 28, further comprising a means for recalculating the relevancy of the resource in response to said modifying said one profile.

33. The apparatus of Claim 27, further comprising a means for calculating a new relevancy of the resource in response to said deleting said one profile.

34. The apparatus of Claim 21, further comprising a means for implementing anti-spamming measures to prevent rogue feedback from adversely affecting said search engine relevancy rating system.

35. The apparatus of Claim 21, said means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources further comprises

a means for providing a web browser modified to accept user evaluations; and

a means for transmitting gathered evaluations to said search engine.

36. An apparatus for refining the calculation of relevance of a resource on an internet, based on a query for relevant resources, through the use of user ratings, comprising:

a means for obtaining a particular query, the particular query obtained from a user;

a means for calculating the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query, said calculating is based on traditional calculation methods;

a means for rating said calculation of relevancy of the resource;

a means for collecting said ratings from the multiple users;

a means for incorporating said collected ratings into the calculation of relevancy of the resource so that said traditional calculation methods are refined and more accurate;

said means for calculating the relevancy of a resources further comprises

a means for providing an internet search engine to the multiple users, with said search engine performing said calculating of relevancy;

a means for formulating query result list of

proposed resources to visit in response to the particular query, said search engine calculated relevancy is used for formulating said query result list;

said means for rating the relevancy of a resource further comprises

a means for supplying said query result list to the multiple users;

a means for prompting each of the multiple users to visit resources on said query result list and rate the resources visited in response to the particular query;

said means for collecting said ratings further comprises

a means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources;

said means for incorporating said collected ratings further comprises

a means for modifying said calculation of said search engine relevancy for said visited resources particular query based on said set of evaluations;

said means for gathering a set of evaluations from each of the multiple users who have rated said visited resources further comprises

a means for providing a first web form on the search engine home page;

a means for providing a second web form on the search engine results page; and

a means for transmitting to said search engine said gathered evaluations.

37. A method for improving search engine efficiency using user feedback, comprising the steps of:

creating and modifying a user profile record;

recording user searches;

recording user ratings of search results;

identifying relevant elements of said user profile record with respect to said user searches;

calculating relevancy coefficients based on said recorded user ratings and said user profile record;

grouping said search results; and,

recalculating of said relevancy coefficients based on said grouping of said results.

38. An apparatus for improving search engine efficiency using user feedback, comprising:

a means for creating and modifying a user profile record;

a means for recording user searches;

a means for recording user ratings of search results;

a means for identifying relevant elements of said user profile record with respect to said user searches;

a means for calculating relevancy coefficients based on said recorded user ratings and said user profile record;

a means for grouping said search results; and,

a means for recalculating of said relevancy coefficients based on said grouping of said results.

REMARKS

The Office Action of May 22, 2001 and the references cited therein have been carefully considered and, in view of the amendments herein to the claims and the following representations, reconsideration of the application in its present form is respectfully requested.

First, it is noted that pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.121, the amended Claims are presented in both marked-up and clean copies.

In view of the amendment herein of the Claims, it is respectfully submitted that the claims more particularly point out distinctly claim the method of the present invention.

Concerning the objected Claims with allowable subject matter, as noted in paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Examiner's Office Action, Applicant has rewritten Claims 4, 18 and 22 in independent form, including all of the limitations of the related base Claims and any intervening Claims. Therefore, all of the dependent Claims which depend from these rewritten objected Claims 4, 18 and 22 are also allowable.

With respect to paragraph 11 of the Examiner's Ofcie Action, Claims 37 and 38 are already allowed.

Moreover, Claims 3 and 21 have been amended to correct an indefiniteness therein by adding the conjunction "wherein" to refer to the method further comprising the steps of providing an Internet search engine and the ratings

activitires related thereto. Claims 16 and 34 have been amended to correct an indefiniteness by deleting the superfluous word "said" with respect to rogue spamming feedback prevention means.

With respect to the rejection of Claims under 35 USC 103 based on obviousness, as noted in paragraphs 3-10 of the Office Action, in view of the amendments herein to independent Claims 1 and 19, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of these Claims 1 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over the combination of US Patent No. 6,041,311 of Chislenko and US Patent No. 6,014,665 of Culliss should now be withdrawn.

For example, amended Claims 1 and 19 now recite that at the end of the user's research, the system displays the results of user query to a user and permits a user to review said results of the user query. Thereafter, the system terminates display of said results to the user. Upon termination of the display of results, the system subsequently provides to the user a questionnaire with one or more scripts using forms, requesting active user feedback from the user, and then calculates the relevancy of a resource based on a particular query of the user.

Initially, with respect to the Chislenko '311 and Culliss '665 patents cited by the Examiner against the Claims, it is important to note that the Chislenko '311 patent is fundamentally different from the Claims of the present application. An exacting reading of Chislenko's

"Field of the Invention" section reveals that the subject matter of his patent involves "*recommending* items using automated collaborative filtering." The amended Claims of the present invention, on the other hand, involve the "process of *refining relevancy* determination for Internet search engine databases, through the use of *user feedback*." Hence, the point of distinction between the Chislenko patent and the amended Claims is the timing of the input. In the Chislenko patent, user profiles are created *prior to* the anticipated search, while in the amended Claims a user profile is created *after* the search. Simply put, Chislenko's user profile is created on the front-end, while the user-profile of the present invention is created on the back-end. The search results are in the middle.

This distinction is dispositive to the extent that the amended Claims allow the user to rate the individual results after they are displayed based on the user's ratings of the usefulness of the retrieved sites. This rating creates the user profile and the next time the user searches using a similar query the user profile will be utilized to retrieve appropriate results. Chislenko '311 asks the user to create a profile *prior to* a search. Based on the user input of identifying criteria, a user profile is created. The user enters his query and the results are displayed based on those predefined characteristics and based on other users' preferences.

Culliss '665, on the other hand, does not prompt each of the multiple users to visit web sites on the said query result list and rate the resources visited in response the particular query. Culliss '665 is, in fact, a table of resources associated with key terms in the index, and in no way does it prompt users to *actively* evaluate any prior search results submitted to the user.

The use of active user feedback at the end of the user's research, would be discouraged, if not clearly taught away from the front end query of Chislenko or the automated, passive analysis of Culliss.

Thus, the position of the Examiner that the use of initial feedback before user research, as in Chislenko '311, in conjunction with the passive automated analysis of Culliss '665, is not only not suggested, but would be discouraged or taught away by the references relied on.

Therefore, in light of the amendment of the Claims, the rejection of the Claims under 35 USC 103 should be withdrawn.

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is earnestly solicited.

Applicant requests an extension of time of three (3) months. A check for $460.00 is enclosed.

Please charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0515.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231 on 12/11/01